

CLAIMS

1. A computer system comprising:  
a host domain including a host computer;  
a storage domain, coupled to the host domain, the storage domain comprising  
a plurality of primary storage devices;  
a secondary storage device;  
and a switched network coupled to the plurality of primary storage nodes and  
to the secondary storage device.
2. The computer system of claim 1, further comprising an additional primary storage  
device, coupled directly to the secondary storage device.
3. The computer system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the primary storage devices is  
a cached disk array.
4. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the secondary storage device includes a  
plurality of ports coupled to the network, to send and receive data on the network in parallel.
5. The computer system of claim 4, wherein the secondary storage device comprises a  
plurality of data movers, each coupled to one of the ports.
6. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of host computers is  
heterogeneous.
7. The computer system of claim 1, further comprising:  
means for transferring a first logical object from one of the primary storage devices  
directly to the secondary storage device over a first connection.
8. The computer system of claim 7, further comprising:  
means for transferring a second logical object from one of the primary storage devices

directly to the secondary storage device over a second connection.

9. The computer system of claim 1, further comprising means for forming an abstract block set from a logical object stored in one of the primary storage devices.

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10. The computer system of claim 1, wherein the secondary storage device comprises a tape library unit.

*Sub A2*  
10 11. A computer system comprising:  
a heterogeneous plurality of host computers;  
a plurality of primary storage devices, each primary storage device being associated with at least one of the host computers; and  
a secondary storage device, coupled to a plurality of the primary storage devices, the secondary storage device being configured to receive backup data from each of the host  
15 computers.

12. The computer system of claim 11, wherein at least one of the primary storage devices is a cached disk array.

20 13. The computer system of claim 11, further comprising means for forming an abstract block set from a logical object stored in one of the primary storage devices.

*Sub A2*  
25 14. The computer system of claim 11, wherein the secondary storage device includes a plurality of ports, to send a receive data in parallel.

15. The computer system of claim 14, wherein the secondary storage device comprises a plurality of data movers, each coupled to one of the ports.

30 16. The computer system of claim 11, further comprising:  
means for transferring a first logical object from one of the primary storage devices directly to the secondary storage device over a first connection.

18. The computer system of claim 11, wherein the secondary storage device comprises a tape library unit.

- automatically establishing a first connection from a first one of the primary storage elements to the secondary storage element to transfer a first logical object to the secondary storage element; and

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising a step of automatically establishing a second connection from a second one of the primary storage elements to the secondary storage element to transfer a second logical object to the secondary storage element; and

21. The method of claim 20, 24, 25, wherein the step of transferring the first logical object and the step of transferring the second logical object are performed in parallel.

22. The method of claims 20, 24, 25, wherein the first logical object and the second logical object were created by heterogeneous operating systems.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein the step of automatically establishing comprises a step of establishing a path through a network.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein the secondary storage element comprises a tape library unit.

25. The method of claim 19, wherein:

5 the secondary storage element comprises a plurality of data movers; and  
the step of automatically establishing comprises a step of selecting at least one of the data movers.

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